



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Security Program Connecticut

2005

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Existing trees and native vegetation are maintained in the riparian areas as food, water, and cover for wildlife.



Arthur Steele, co-owner of Brown's Farm, signed Connecticut's first CSP contract. He is shown here shaking hands with NRCS Resource Conservationist Narcizo Guerrero-Murillo.

Stewardship Has Its Rewards! Brown Farm Among Connecticut's First CSP Contract Holders

Sarah Pappenheimer and Arthur Steele own and operate the Brown Farm in the Town of Scotland, Connecticut.

They were recognized as the first approved Conservation Security Program participants in the state.



Organic vegetables are produced using compost from by products on the farm.

Shown are Sarah Pappenheimer (right) and a friend harvesting a crop. "All who live here (people, livestock, and poultry) enjoy the blessing of a natural sheltered life," says Pappenheimer.

Diversification on Organic Farm with Conservation in Mind

The Brown Farm has been operated by generation after generation since 1734. Once a sheep farm with over 100 acres of open pasture, today it is a small, diversified farm.

It is USDA-Certified as Organic for its vegetables, berries, eggs, and poultry. All products are sold at local farmers markets.

The goats produce high quality mohair and meat, and are rotated on orchard grass/clover pastures.

Grass clippings, overripe vegetables, and animal wastes

from the goats are all collected and mixed together to re re-used as a rich compost product to increase organic matter in the soil.

Poultry is pastured by dragging the cages over grassland and aid in the control of insects.

A riparian buffer was established this past summer when electric, high tensile fence was installed to exclude the goats from the wetlands. Native vegetation has returned to the riparian area and provides food, water, and cover for wildlife.

Connecticut CSP Quick Facts for 2005:

Watersheds: 2
Quinebaug
Shetucket

Watershed Acreage:
154,430

**Estimated Number of
Farms & Ranches:**
79

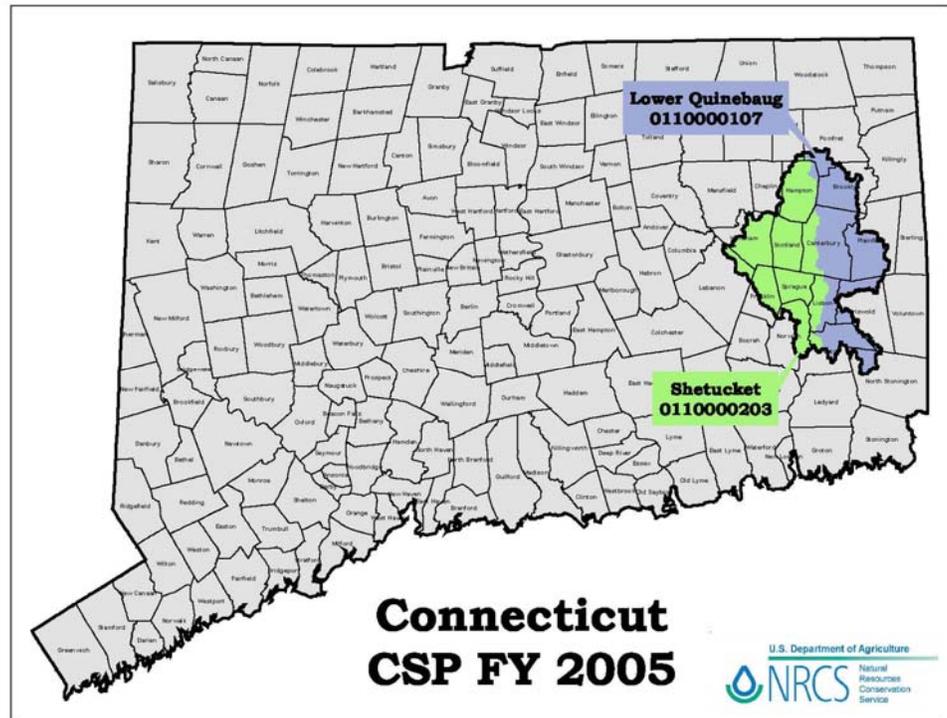
Farmland:
116,764 acres

CSP Participation:
Sought info on CSP
75
Attended workshops
4
Applied
5
Enrolled
4

**Typical
Enhancements:**

- Soil management
- Grazing management

Connecticut 2005 CSP Highlights



Watershed	Total CSP Contracts Approved	Tier 1	Tier II	Tier III
Quinebaug	1		1	
Shetucket	3		3	
TOTAL Contracts	4		4	
TOTAL 2005 Payments	\$4,030.00		\$4,030.00	

CSP is a voluntary program that supports ongoing conservation stewardship of agricultural working lands and enhances the condition of America's natural resources. NRCS financial and technical assistance promotes the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes. CSP will be available each year on a rotational basis in as many watersheds as funding allows. Additional information on CSP, including the self-assessment workbook and Federal Register notice can be accessed at www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp.